

REMARKS

Claims 1 and 6 are currently amended. Claims 1-10 are pending in the application for further examination. Reconsideration of the Office Action mailed December 15, 2005 is respectfully requested.

The indication of allowable subject matter in Claims 5 and 10 is acknowledged with appreciation. Claims 1 and 6 have been amended to recite that the story portion reproducer reproduces a story portion upon exchanging disks without displaying a menu when the all-repeat mode is set. Support for this changes can be found at page 19, line 21-page 20, line 1 of the specification. Claims 1 and 6 have further been amended to require a normal reproducer, which executes a normal reproducing process of a DVD including a menu display based on menu data on the DVD, when the all-repeat-mode is not set. Support for this changes can be found at page 14, lines 17-19 of the specification. Finally, the term “unconditionally” has been deleted from Claims 1 and 6. Claims 1-10 are presented for further examination.

In response to paragraph 1 of the Office Action, Applicants respectfully note that an information disclosure statement must satisfy **one** of paragraphs (b), (c) or (d) of 37 C.F.R. § 1.97. See 37 C.F.R. § 1.97. The information disclosure statement filed on August 23, 2001 was filed concurrently with the instant application, and the information disclosure statement filed on July 20, 2005 was filed before the mailing of a first Office Action on the merits. Accordingly, both information disclosure statements comply with 37 C.F.R. §

1.97(b) and no statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) is required. No further correction is deemed necessary.

The rejection of Claims 1-10 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, has been overcome by the foregoing amendments to Claims 1 and 6. With respect to the word 'set' in Claims 1 and 6, page 14, lines 9-24 of the specification makes clear that 'set' refers to a "YES" condition in Figure 12, meaning the all-repeat condition is set, and 'not set' refers to a "NO" condition in Figure 12, meaning the all-repeat condition is not set. Finally, a detailed explanation of how the story portion is reproduced (played) when the all-repeat mode is set can be found at page 13, line 1-page 22, line 12 of the specification. Withdrawal of the rejection is requested.

The rejection of Claims 1-4 and 6-9 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over U.S. Patent No. 5,748,585 to Tsukamoto is respectfully traversed.¹ Claims 1 and 6 have been amended to require reproducing (playing) a story portion upon exchanging DVD disks without displaying a menu when said all-repeat-mode is set, and executing a normal reproducing process of a DVD including a menu display based on menu data on the DVD when said all-repeat-mode is not set. The claimed combination of features is not reasonably taught or suggested by Tsukamoto. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

It is submitted that the difference between the claimed subject matter and the prior art are such that the claimed subject matter, as a whole, would not

¹ Page 4 of the Office Action refers to modifying Hickey, which is not prior art of record. For purposes of this Reply, Hickey is treated as a typographical error that should read Tsukamoto.

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have been obvious at the time the invention was made to person having ordinary skill in the art.

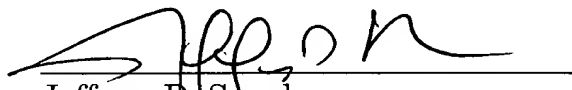
In view of the foregoing, the application is respectfully submitted to be in condition for allowance, and prompt favorable action thereon is earnestly solicited.

If there are any questions regarding this amendment or the application in general, a telephone call to the undersigned at (202) 624-2995 would be appreciated since this should expedite the prosecution of the application for all concerned.

If necessary to effect a timely response, this paper should be considered as a petition for an Extension of Time sufficient to effect a timely response, and please charge any deficiency in fees or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 05-1323 (Docket #010524.50332US).

Respectfully submitted,

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